

CLAIMS

I claim:

Sub a2> 1. An apparatus for controlling a computer operation based on one or more stimuli sensed from a user, said apparatus comprising:

(a) stimuli input means coupled to the user for detecting at least one stimulus being caused by the thought of the user;

(b) a computer having an operating system, coupled to said stimuli input means, for processing said at least one stimulus to produce a function control signal to control the operation of said computer, said computer comprising:

(1) function selection means for receiving said at least one stimulus and wherein said function selection means comprises a memory including a correspondence between a plurality of previously-stored user stimuli and a plurality of desired function control signals;

(2) identification means, coupled to said function selection means, for comparing said at least one stimulus to said correspondence to identify a function control signal corresponding to said at least one stimulus, said function control signal being transmitted to the operating system of said ~~computer~~

2. The apparatus of Claim 1 wherein said stimuli input means comprises ~~magnetic~~ ^{biomagnetic} ~~source imaging means~~

3. The apparatus of Claim 1 further comprising means, coupled to said computer, for contributing alternate or additional inputs concerning the user or the environment of the user to said apparatus.

4. The apparatus of Claim 1 further comprising auxiliary stimuli input means, coupled to said computer, for providing additional or alternative stimuli inputs from the user using equipments capable of measuring *biomagnetism or electrical potentials* ~~such emissions~~.

5. The apparatus of Claim 4 wherein said auxiliary stimuli input means comprises conditioning means for conditioning said at least one stimulus for use by said computer.

6. The apparatus of Claim 4 wherein said equipments include magnetic resonance imaging means.

7. The apparatus of Claim 4 wherein said equipments include an electrocardiogram.

8. The apparatus of Claim 4 wherein said equipments include an electroencephalogram.

9. The apparatus of Claim 1 further comprising communicating means, coupled to said computer, for communicating information pertaining to the user's thoughts.

10. The apparatus of Claim 9 wherein the user has brain stimulating means coupled to the brain of the user and wherein said computer stimulates specific *thought* ~~brain~~ activity via said communicating means, said communicating means being adapted to couple to the brain stimulating means.

11. The apparatus of Claim 9 wherein said communicating means comprises a computer monitor.

12. The apparatus of Claim 1 wherein said computer further comprises designating means coupled to said function selection means, said designating means permitting the user to designate a particular representation to be associated with said at least one stimulus.

~~13. The apparatus of Claim 12 wherein said computer further comprises means for avoiding inadvertent action or undesired action.~~

14. The apparatus of Claim 13 wherein said computer further comprises means for classifying the inadvertent action or undesired action by a degree of danger.

15. The apparatus of Claim 1 wherein said stimuli input means comprises conditioning means for conditioning said at least one stimulus for use by said computer.

~~16. The apparatus of Claim 1 wherein said computer further comprises means to explore user characteristics for correlation of stimuli with user thoughts and feelings.~~

17. The apparatus of Claim 1 wherein said computer further comprises a database for storing inaccuracies regarding said correspondence between said plurality of previously-stored user stimuli and said plurality of desired function control signals.

Sub a3 18. The apparatus of Claim 1 wherein said apparatus can be used by a plurality of users and wherein said computer further comprises a respective data base for storing user unique stimuli for respective users, said user unique stimuli being usable by said computer for security or identification of users.

~~19. The apparatus of Claim 1 wherein said computer further comprises optimum control means, said optimum control means identifying the most desirable stimuli of the user.~~

~~20. The apparatus of Claim 3 wherein said computer further comprises comparing means for comparing said alternate or additional inputs concerning body functions of the user to said previously-stored user stimuli in accomplishing a particular body function.~~

21. The apparatus of Claim 1 wherein said computer further comprises stimuli selection means for selecting stimuli from the user based upon acceptance criteria to form said previously-stored user stimuli.

22. The apparatus of Claim 21 wherein said computer further comprises manual selection limit means for permitting control of said acceptance criteria.

23. The apparatus of Claim 1 wherein said computer further comprises artificial intelligence means for determining acceptance criteria of said at least one stimulus.

24. The apparatus of Claim 1 wherein said computer further comprises utilization means for selecting those stimuli necessary to perform a minimal function.

25. The apparatus of Claim 1 wherein said computer further comprises artificial intelligence means for recognizing and analyzing patterns of stimuli.

26. The apparatus of Claim 1 wherein said computer further comprises artificial intelligence means for recognizing and analyzing the signal strength of said at least one stimulus.

27. The apparatus of Claim 1 wherein said computer further comprises artificial intelligence means including enhancing means for enhancing said control of said computer operation to a higher plateau.

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28. The apparatus of Claim 1 wherein said computer further comprises artificial intelligence means including means for applying reason to perform said control of said computer operation.

29. The apparatus of Claim 1 wherein said computer further comprises artificial intelligence means including means for solving problems to perform said control of said computer operation.

30. The apparatus of Claim 1 wherein said apparatus further comprises artificial intelligence means for suggesting and stimulating ideas and wherein said artificial intelligence means integrates user action with statistics in order to suggest and stimulate ideas for the user.

31. The apparatus of Claim 1 wherein said computer further comprises artificial intelligence means including learning means that permits said apparatus to learn from the past.

32. The apparatus of Claim 9 wherein the user is either a human or an animal.

33. The apparatus of Claim 11 wherein said apparatus further comprises thought production means, said thought production means comprising visual displays on said monitor that provokes the at least one stimulus from the user.

34. The apparatus of Claim 9 wherein said apparatus further comprises thought production means, said thought production means comprising sounds, smell or other sensible factors supplied to the user via said communicating means.

35. The apparatus of Claim 34 wherein said apparatus further comprises feedback means for aiding said user in isolating which thought provoked said at least one stimulus.

36. The apparatus of Claim 11 wherein said computer monitor comprises a display for displaying a menu to prompt the user for the next function control signal.

37. The apparatus of Claim 1 further comprising a sound system coupled to said computer to permit audio input to said computer from the user or other audio sources to initiate said function selection means.

38. The apparatus of Claim 1 further comprising means for detecting coactive stimuli for increasing the dependability of said function selection means.

39. The apparatus of Claim 1 further comprising thought signal detection means for detecting stimuli that correspond to activation of a mouse or at least one key on a keyboard.

40. The apparatus of Claim 1 further comprising means for detecting sequential stimuli for increasing the dependability of said function selection means.

41. The apparatus of Claim 1 further comprising fail-safe means for automatically saving all data relating to current system status and for shutting down said apparatus whenever a system failure occurs.

42. The apparatus of Claim 1 further comprising means for detecting movement of the user's eye to initiate a function control signal relating to user eye movement to utilize eye movement indications for controlling computer operation.

43. The apparatus of Claim ⁴²32 further comprising adjustment means for adjusting eye movement indications to correlate with the orientation of the focus center of the user's eye.

44. The apparatus of Claim 1 further comprising localization means for identifying locations in the user of the source of said at least one stimulus.

45. The apparatus of Claim 44 further comprising adapting means for adapting said apparatus to a change of location of the source of said at least one stimulus whenever the user moves.

46. The apparatus of Claim 1 wherein said computer further comprises means for formulating statistics related to said computer operation, said means for formulating statistics being coupled to said memory.

47. The apparatus of Claim 46 wherein said computer further comprises decision-making means for selecting or rejecting said at least one stimulus, said decision-making means operating based upon previously received stimuli characteristics.

48. The apparatus of Claim 46 further comprising recording means, said recording means recording each equipment required for each function used during an evaluation period to produce an output describing a minimum configuration required to achieve at least one function.

49. The apparatus of Claim 23 further comprising diagnostic means, coupled to said artificial intelligence means, for automatically taking corrective action whenever faulty conditions are identified by said diagnostic means during computer operations.

50. The apparatus of Claim 49 wherein said diagnostic means further comprises input means for permitting the user to input a recommendation in order to take corrective action.

51. The apparatus of Claim 1 further comprising bodily communication means, said bodily communication means being adapted to be coupled to the user, or within the user, to provide for a communication path for said at least one stimulus between the user's brain and a user body part to be controlled.

a 52. The apparatus of Claim 1 wherein said stimuli input means comprises a miniaturized unit that is positionable ^{near or} within the body of the user, said miniaturized unit monitoring the thoughts of the user and recording thought history of the user.

Sub a4 53. The apparatus of Claim 52 wherein said stimuli input means further comprises remote communication means, said remote communication means providing user-related data to a remote device.

54. The apparatus of Claim 1 wherein said stimuli input means comprises a user-worn device for detecting said at least one stimulus and wherein said user-worn device is in communication with said computer.

Sub a5 55. Apparatus for controlling computer operation from one or more stimuli sensed from the human body said apparatus comprising:

(a) detecting means for detecting said stimuli to produce one or more detected stimuli,

(b) selecting means for selecting one or more of said detected stimuli to perform a function to produce a selected function,

(c) identification means for identifying one or more said detected stimuli as corresponding to said selected function for producing a function control signal,

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Q. 10. *What is the difference between a strong and a weak acid?*

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